

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraphs at page 6, lines 9-17 as follows:

C² Figure 1 illustrates the body weight of VGF knockout mice (#2, #6, #7, and #1) following administration of VGF-1a (SEQ ID NO: 2). The administration of VGF-1a was ceased at day 5 (as indicated by the arrow);

Figure 2 illustrates the antibody titer levels of a rabbit injected with VGF-1 (SEQ ID NO:1), calculated at 1:100 to 2x serial dilution; A represents samples measured at 4 weeks after initial injection, B represents samples measured at 6 weeks after initial injection, C represents samples measured at 8 weeks after initial injection, and D-H represent samples measured from control animals that were injected with normal rabbit serum (NR); numbers 1-12 represent samples at various serial dilutions (1:100 to 2x);

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Figure 3 illustrates the antibody titer levels of a rabbit injected with VGF-2 (SEQ ID NO:4), calculated at 1:100 to 2x serial dilution; A represents samples measured at 4 weeks after initial injection, B represents samples measured at 6 weeks after initial injection, C represents samples measured at 8 weeks after initial injection, and D-H represent samples measured from control animals that were injected with normal rabbit serum (NR); numbers 1-12 represent samples at various serial dilutions (1:100 to 2x).

Please amend the paragraph at page 79, line 26 to page 80, line 5 as follows:

The syringe was connected with an 18-gauge mixing needle and the solution was mixed to emulsify. The mixture was then transferred to two 1 ml syringes for intramuscular injection into rabbits. Rabbits were injected with 0.1 ml of VGF polypeptide/adjuvant solution at 2 injection sites, and the rabbits were then boosted at 4 weeks and 6 weeks thereafter. Rabbits were test bled (removing approximately 5 ml) following the second boost and then test bled again after two weeks. If the production bl eds were deemed acceptable, rabbits were boosted

again and then bled once a week for six weeks (removing approximately 40 ml) two weeks after this boost. Figures 2 and 3 illustrate the antibody titer levels of rabbits injected with either VGF-1 or VGF-2.